14:International Bank S-5 (1954) 1955 MD1 Syria MD1

871 L58 number of primary, intermediate and secondary schools more than doubled.

871 The last five years alone have seen 939 new schools[2] established—an increase of 64% over the previously existing schools and an average increase of 11% per annum. Greatest gains occurred in the primary schools, the number of which rose by 81% or 11.4% per year. The number of children attending primary schools rose from about 150,000 in 1945-46 to 311,000 in 1952-53. Enrollment in intermediate and secondary schools increased even more rapidly—from 12,661 to 47,670. These advances, as well as those in the fields of technical education, teacher-training and higher education, are shown in Table 1.

872 *Primary Education*

In spite of the very large effort of the last few years, the remaining problems are enormous. According to the best available estimates, no more than 30-40% of the population is literate. It is customarily reckoned that, in a population similar in structure to Syria's, the number of children in every year of age from the 6th to the 12th is approximately equal to 2.6% of the total population. Six to eleven being the primary school age in Syria, there would be on this basis 546,000 children ($6 \times 2.6\% = 15.6\%$ of the 1952 population) of primary school age. Actually only 311,033, or presumably 56% of the eligibles, are in school.

The ratio is not the same for boys and girls. Assuming that the school-age population is divided equally between boys and girls—i.e., that there are 273,000 of each sex—then 18% of the boys and 68% of the girls do not attend school (the attendance figures are 222,779 and 88,254, respectively). Furthermore, many children do not remain in school long enough to receive a school certificate. The number who do finish has been increasing rapidly (from 624 in 1928, to 2,993 in 1940, 6,690 in 1946 and 19,850 in 1952) but it is still much lower than it should be.

There is one primary school for every 1,400 persons in Syria, with an average of 128 pupils and 3.6 teachers. Although only 13% of all primary schools are private schools, these have 18% of all primary school pupils and over 23% of the primary school teachers. The provinces of Damascus and Aleppo have the largest number of private schools; the Euphrates, Djebel Druze and Hauran have the fewest.

[2] Not new buildings, but new schools, most of which occupy rented buildings.

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TABLE 1 Recent Educational Progress in Syria

	1945–46	1950–51	1952–53
Budget of Ministry of Education[a]	16,967[b]	24,266[c]	36,804[d]
Percent of total ordinary budget	13.5	14.6	17.7
Primary education			
Number of schools	1,080	1,794	2,399
Government	737	1,472	2,064
Private	343	322	335
Number of pupils	150,134	261,862	311,033
Government	99,703	206,343	249,399
Private	50,431	55,519	61,634
Number of graduates	6,690	18,104	26,342
Intermediate and secondary education			
Number of schools	73	135	181
Government	28	47	57
Private	45	88	124
Number of pupils	12,661	34,874	47,670
Government	8,276	22,269	27,144
Private	4,385	12,595	20,526
Number of intermediate school graduates	1,039	3,630	4,610
Number of secondary school graduates	1,155	1,243	1,700
Technical schools			
Number of schools	7	15	8[e]
Government	5	11	6
Private	2	4	2
Number of pupils	916	2,277	1,676
Government	881	2,105	1,567
Private	35	172	109
Teacher training			
Number of schools	4	5	8
Number of students	388	955	1,255
Higher education			
Number of students	1,058	2,470	2,598

[a] In thousands of Syrian pounds.
[b] 1946 budget.
[c] Two-thirds of the 18-months budget ended June 30, 1951.
[d] 1953 budget.
[e] Excluding agricultural schools.

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Assuming an equal percentage of school age children in the different districts, it appears that the regional distribution of primary schools is very unbalanced. Thus the average number of primary school pupils is 91

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872 per 1,000 of the population, but in the Jezireh it is only 53 while in the Djebel Druze it is 152. The number of schools, which for Syria as a whole averages 0.7 per thousand people, varies regionally from 0.53 in Aleppo to 1.62 in the Djebel Druze. Similarly, while the country has an average of 2.56 teachers per thousand people, Latakia has only 1.94 and the Djebel Druze 4.01. It is apparent that, proportionately, in some areas three times as many are receiving primary education as in other areas.

For 1952-53, there were 8,541 primary school teachers in Syria. The pupil-teacher ratio was 36 for Syria as a whole; it ranged from 26 in the Jezireh to 41 in the Hauran and 43 in Homs.

Many factors have affected the distribution of educational facilities and the extent of school attendance. There is naturally a better provision for schools in the older settled areas than in the Jezireh, which has been developed only in the last decade and a half. School attendance is higher in the more densely populated districts than in areas, like the Jezireh, where the population is sparse and scattered and children may be deterred from attending by the distance from the nearest school. Thus, while the Jezireh has the fewest schools in relation to the population, it also has the highest proportion of teachers to school attendance. Economic pressure also keeps children out of school or causes them to leave before finishing, although in areas where the educational tradition is strong, as is apparently the case in the Djebel Druze, school attendance may be high despite a rather low standard of living.

Intermediate and Secondary Schools

873 There is one secondary school for every 20,400 people, with an average of 276 pupils and 17 teachers per school. Records show that the number of children attending intermediate and secondary schools in 1952-53 was 47,670 out of an estimated 425,000 of school age. In other words, only 11.2% of school age children were attending secondary schools at all. Even if we include those receiving post-primary education in technical, agricultural and intermediate schools, the percentage does not rise above 12%. Thus less than one out of eight children in Syria receives any formal education beyond the primary grades.

Private schools represent 65% of all secondary schools, but they have only 40% of the secondary school pupils. Only in Latakia is the private school enrollment greater than that of governmental schools. On the other

التربية والتعليم

عدد الطلاب والأساتذة في المدارس الابتدائية الرسمية والأهلية والأجنبية في المحافظات السورية

السنة الدراسية ١٩٥٢/١٩٥٣

NUMBER OF PUPILS, SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS IN GOVERNMENT, NATIONAL AND FOREIGN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, 1952/1953

Table No. 4

جدول رقم ٤

Mohafazat	عدد التلاميذ Number of pupils			عدد المدارس Number of Schools				عدد الأساتذة No. of Teachers	المحافظات
	المجموع Total	ذكور Males	اناث Females	المجموع Total	ذكور Males	اناث Females	مختلطة Mixed		
Grand total	311,033	222,779	88,254	2,209	1,610	394	395	8,801	المجموع العام
Government Elementary School									الابتدائي الرسمي
— Total	249,399	185,275	64,124	2,064	1,503	343	218	6,828	ـ المجموع
— Damascus	70,259	46,199	24,060	368	229	108	31	1,774	ـ دمشق
— Homs	20,594	14,873	5,721	129	93	23	13	470	ـ حمص
— Hama	19,622	13,433	6,189	111	76	28	7	481	ـ حماة
— Latakia	35,523	27,563	7,960	431	291	48	92	839	ـ اللاذقية
— Aleppo	55,451	43,816	11,635	439	376	59	4	1,557	ـ حلب
— Al-Hasakeh	8,074	6,863	1,211	195	170	11	14	333	ـ الحسكة
— Deir-es-Zor	10,861	8,653	2,128	117	99	17	1	345	ـ دير الزور
— Sweida	14,200	10,722	3,668	153	88	35	30	388	ـ السويداء
— Dir'a	14,505	12,953	1,552	121	83	14	24	341	ـ درعا
National Elementary School — total	54,856	34,215	20,641	308	99	44	165	1,013	الابتدائي الأهلي ـ المجموع
— Damascus	17,166	11,239	5,927	96	34	12	50	573	ـ دمشق
— Homs	4,733	3,365	1,368	24	11	5	8	134	ـ حمص
— Hama	2,374	1,764	610	14	4	1	9	76	ـ حماة
— Latakia	4,266	2,605	1,661	40	16	7	17	123	ـ اللاذقية
— Aleppo	19,103	10,888	8,215	90	28	16	46	786	ـ حلب
— Al-Hasakeh	5,341	3,195	2,146	24	—	—	24	176	ـ الحسكة
— Deir-es-Zor	675	415	260	7	2	—	5	38	ـ دير الزور
— Sweida	222	167	55	4	1	1	2	16	ـ السويداء
— Dir'a	955	577	378	9	3	2	4	34	ـ درعا
Foreign Elementary School									الابتدائي الأجنبي
— total	6,778	3,289	3,489	27	8	7	12	960	ـ المجموع
— Damascus	3,287	1,332	1,975	9	2	3	4	106	ـ دمشق
— Homs	433	313	120	5	1	—	4	21	ـ حمص
— Latakia	676	361	315	5	3	2	—	27	ـ اللاذقية
— Aleppo	2,324	1,274	1,050	6	2	2	2	104	ـ حلب
— Dir'a	58	29	29	2	—	—	2	2	ـ درعا

Source : Ministry of Education.

المصدر : وزارة المعارف

التربية والتعليم

عدد الحاصلين على الشهادة الابتدائية (*) ١٩٢٨ — ١٩٥٣

NUMBER OF PERSONS ACQUIRING THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CERTIFICATE (*) 1928—1953

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Table No. 6 جدول رقم ٦

YEAR	المجموع Total	ذكور Males	اناث Females	السنة
1928	624	462	162	١٩٢٨
1929	640	498	142	١٩٢٩
1930	556	453	103	١٩٣٠
1931	721	558	163	١٩٣١
1932	985	699	286	١٩٣٢
1933	956	755	201	١٩٣٣
1934	870	688	182	١٩٣٤
1935	1,036	817	219	١٩٣٥
1936	1,695	1,372	253	١٩٣٦
1937	1,992	1,320	672	١٩٣٧
1938	2,611	1,940	671	١٩٣٨
1939	2,486	1,959	520	١٩٣٩
1940	2,993	2,221	772	١٩٤٠
1941	2,312	1,691	621	١٩٤١
1942	3,661	2,704	957	١٩٤٢
1943	3,743	2,790	953	١٩٤٣
1944	4,829	3,581	1,248	١٩٤٤
1945	4,011	3,188	823	١٩٤٥
1946	6,690	5,279	1,411	١٩٤٦
1947	8,535	6,553	2,002	١٩٤٧
1948	9,196	7,259	1,937	١٩٤٨
1949	10,728	8,407	2,321	١٩٤٩
1950	14,945	11,626	3,319	١٩٥٠
1951	18,104	14,207	3,897	١٩٥١
1952	19,840	15,832	4,008	١٩٥٢
1953	26,342	20,556	5,786	١٩٥٣

Source : Ministry of Education. المصدر : وزارة المعارف

(*) قبل عام ١٩٢٨ كانت شهادات الدراسة الابتدائية تعطى من قبل مدير المدرسة ، فاصبحت تمنح بعد ذلك من وزير المعارف

(*) Prior to 1928, this certificate was issued by the principals of schools but was thereafter granted by the Ministry of Education.

3:Royal Institute of International Affairs U-4 (no date)1954 M1 Middle East
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mainly Christian) those run by foreigners are now finding it difficult to disarm the suspicions of the Government. In Lebanon, there are almost as many private as state schools and the foreign schools still work without difficulty. There are higher schools for teachers and for agriculture and engineering in Syria and for agriculture in Lebanon, but it is usual for a student to pass from a secondary school directly to a university. The following table shows the various types of schools and number of students.

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Type	Lebanon, 1951		Syria, 1951–2	
	Schools	*Students*	*Schools*	*Students*
State:				
Primary	977	83,252	1,850	237,775
Secondary	..	..	57	26,257
Technical	30	2,381	11	2,146
Teachers	2	165	10	1,233
Reformatory	1	106	—	—
Private	601	84,788	387	65,936
Foreign	149	41,402	56	9,852
Total:	1,760	212,094	2,371	343,179

.. = not available.

(Sources: *Statistical Abstract of Syria, 1951–2*, Damascus, 1952; *Statesman's Year-Book*, 1953).

The American University of Beirut is non-sectarian and has students from all over the Middle East. It encourages the use of Arabic as well as English, and its most renowned faculties are those of medicine and social sciences. The University of St Joseph in Beirut is run by the Society of Jesus. Attached to this university are schools of medicine, law, and theology, subsidized by the French Government and administered by the Society, in which teaching is carried on in the French language. A National University has recently been started by the Lebanese Government. The Syrian National University in Damascus teaches in Arabic and its most important faculties are those of law and medicine. A separate body for the study of the Arabic language is the Arab Academy of Damascus.

Health

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Malaria and amoebic dysentery are endemic and, though efforts are being made to drain breeding-grounds, preventive medicine is only in a rudimentary stage. Good hospitals exist in the cities and more are under construction; qualified doctors practise in all the towns, but in the villages there is still a lack